

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

January 17, 2024

- Present:** Renee Hernandez (KF), Spider (S.R.), Katie Walker (Malin), Del Fox (Merrill), Chris Neterer (Bonanza), Scott Siracusa (KF), Joe Spendolini (S.S.), Tim Sexton (Chiloquin), Jennifer Cole (Keno), Nathalie Johnston (Director), Cindy Williams (Recorder), Commissioner Henslee, Commissioner Minty. Public: Kate Murphy.
- Call to order:** 12:00 p.m.
- Minutes:** M/S/Approved.
- Membership:** Del introduced himself. He is a farmer from Dairy. He is on several boards and he thinks the Library is very important to the community and civilian oversight is needed for any publicly funded organization. Renee announced that she will officially resign from the LAB on January 31, 2024.
- B.O.C.C.** Commissioner Henslee is the new liaison to the Library. He is excited to be our liaison. His expectations are to let Nathalie lead, and he will support her. Chris asked about his availability. He will be traveling to D.C. next month for four days, four days in Florida in July, and meeting for A.O.C in Salem every other month. Spider asked about the removal of board members in the by-laws and Commissioner Henslee said that they have not removed anyone yet, but if a member had an issue that affected the community, the board could recommend the removal of the member to the B.O.C.C. There would be discussions prior to the removal. Commissioner Minty noted that there have been a lot of changes in the last six months. The B.O.C.C. would like all boards to be consistent and more efficient.
- Branches:** Katie reported that the Merrill park board approved a new lean-to that will provide cover for our book drop in Merrill. Nathalie will ask for quotes and ask if the Library Foundation is willing to fund the project. Katie would like to have a template for meeting reports. Scott said that unique and different issues at branches should be reported. Nathalie suggested that each board members email her a brief report one week prior to the meeting and she will add it to the branch report.
- Jennifer asked about the survey. Nathalie said that it will be coming soon. She also asked about the process of meeting between quarterly meetings and Nathalie said that members should email her and Scott if they have any issues that need to be addressed.
- Spider asked about insurance coverage for our volunteers who are shoveling snow in Sprague River. Nathalie will ask our agent to make sure we are protected in case of an incident. Spider said that there will be no Sprague River newsletter. He also asked if we track website visits. Yes.
- Director:** The expiration dates of library cards will be changing June 30th. Patrons will need to come into the library every two years to make sure that they are still residents. This new procedure is necessary to remove card holders who no longer live in the service area but are still using the digital collections. Jennifer asked if you could renew at any branch? Yes. Patrons call also call or email if they have mobility

issues. Work on our Strategic plan is coming up and Nathalie would like the LAB members to participate in the process.

Old Business: Nathalie sent members a sample of the survey and asked if the members had any questions. Joe volunteered to help with the survey. Nathalie is still waiting for personnel and internal charges to finish our 2024-2025 budget.

New Business: Scott asked for members willing to form a committee to work on reformatting the by-laws. Jennifer, Del, and Renee volunteered. They will make the changes and email members for review. If approved, Nathalie will present it to the B.O.C.C. for approval.

Scott asked the Commissioner what they would like the board to report on for the meetings. and Commissioner Henslee would like the board to focus on policy recommendations and issues rather than events and news. Commissioner Minty would like this board to work together and focus on helping the Library to thrive within the community and elevate our programs and services. Diversity and inclusion are very important, and members are encouraged to recruit new members so that the board will be more diverse and reflect the community.

Adjourned: 12:54 p.m.

Public comments: Kate asked about representation for the homeless population. A member of the Gospel Mission or a member of a local group could be recruited. Nathalie reminded her that the application for the LAB is available online and prompted her to invite people from the community to apply. We will have two open positions at the end of January.

Next Meeting: April 17th 2024, In person and via Zoom.